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APPLICANT : Wilfried KOLBE et al

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I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on APRIL 8, 2004.

Richard M. Goldberg
(Name of Registered Representative)
and person mailing

Richard M. Goldberg April 8, 2004
(Signature and Date)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the same as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 8 of this paper.

The Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.